

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. **(Withdrawn)** A pharmaceutical composition for treating an inner ear disorder, the composition comprising an agent that modulates glutamate-mediated neurotransmission or sodium channel function without causing significant clinical hearing loss associated with suppression of AMPA receptor-mediated signals.
2. **(Withdrawn)** The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the agent inhibits pre-synaptic release of glutamate.
3. **(Withdrawn)** The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the agent inhibits glutamate-mediated neurotransmission post-synaptically.
4. **(Withdrawn)** The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the agent is a glutamate ionotropic receptor antagonist.
5. **(Withdrawn)** The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4, wherein the glutamate ionotropic receptor antagonist is an NMDA receptor antagonist.
6. **(Withdrawn)** The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein the NMDA receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of: D-AP5, MK 801, 7-chlorokynurenate, gacyclidine, and derivatives or analogues thereof.
7. **(Withdrawn)** A system for delivery of a drug to the round window membrane of the inner ear to treat an inner ear disorder, wherein the system comprises a sustained-release drug delivery device and a drug, and wherein the drug modulates glutamate-mediated neurotransmission without causing significant clinical hearing loss associated with suppression of AMPA receptor-mediated signals, and wherein the drug is delivered to the round window membrane over a period of at least 24 hours.

8. **(Withdrawn)** The system of claim 7 wherein the drug is an NMDA receptor antagonist.
9. **(Withdrawn)** The system of claim 8 wherein the NMDA receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of: D-AP5, MK 801, 7-chlorokynurenate, gacyclidine, and derivatives or analogues thereof.
10. **(Withdrawn)** The system of claim 8 wherein the drug delivery device comprises a pump
11. **(Withdrawn)** The system of claim 8 wherein the drug delivery device comprises a catheter.
12. **(Withdrawn)** The system of claim 8, wherein the drug is delivered at a rate of from about 0.1 mg per hour to 200 mg per hour for a period of at least 24 hours.
13. **(Withdrawn)** The system of claim 8, wherein the drug is delivered to the round window membrane of the inner ear for a period of at least about 3 days.
14. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treating an inner ear disorder in a subject, the disorder being caused by aberrant glutamate-mediated neurotransmission, the method comprising:
administering directly to the inner ear ~~to a round window membrane~~ of a subject suffering from an inner ear disorder, a formulation comprising an agent ~~that modulates glutamate-mediated neurotransmission or sodium channel function~~ selected from the group consisting of: D-AP5, MK 801, 7-chlorokynurenate and gacyclidine, thereby treating the inner ear disorder in the subject,
wherein said administration results in ~~passage of the agent through the round window membrane and into the inner ear of the subject to provide~~ modulation of

glutamate-mediated neurotransmission without causing significant clinical hearing loss associated with suppression of AMPA receptor-mediated signals.

15. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 14, wherein the agent is an ~~NMDA receptor antagonist~~ administered by diffusion across a middle-inner ear membrane.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 15, wherein the ~~NMDA receptor antagonist is selected from the group consisting of: D-AP5, MK-801, 7-chlorokynurenate,~~ agent is gacyclidine, and derivatives or analogues thereof.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~14~~15 wherein the agent is delivered to the round window membrane of the inner ear for a period of at least about 3 days.

18. **(Original)** The method of claim 14, wherein the agent is delivered at a rate of from about 0.1 mg per hour to 200 mg per hour, continually, for a period of at least 24 hours.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 14, wherein the inner ear disorder comprises tinnitus.